

Harris Chosen as Director, Defense Distribution Depot Barstow, California

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE BARSTOW, Calif. — Dallas L. Harris has been chosen as the new Defense Distribution Depot Barstow, California (DDBC) director. Harris replaces Lieutenant Col. James A. Kessler, who relinquished command of DDBC recently.

DDBC, one of 22 distribution centers operated by the Defense Distribution Center (DDC), recently completed an Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 study to determine if the depot's distribution operations could be more effectively handled by being contracted out or by remaining with the government work force. As a result it was determined that those functions would be contracted out.

Harris began his government service as a Marine in 1963. He attained the rank of sergeant in Vietnam where he served a 13-month tour with the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. After an honorable discharge in July 1967, Harris went to work for the next 27 years at the base's Materiel Division while achieving a Juris Doctorate in Law in 1978.

Harris has worked at DDBC for the past eight years. Since joining the depot team, Harris has worked in every section in the division with the exception of Packing and Shipping. He became the Chief of the Warehouse Division in 1997 where he was in charge of warehousing, receiving, quality control, inventory, NBC (Nuclear, Biological and Chemical) gear and the crane and rigging crew.

Since August 2000, Harris has been the senior civilian continuing government activity serving as the deputy commander, accountable officer and traffic officer charged with monitoring the civilian contractor that recently took over distribution operations.

Harris has been part of the team leading the distribution center to success by improving the safety record—making the center one of the safest in the DDC. At the same time, he achieved performance metrics—a method of measuring the command's procedures—which placed the center at the top of nearly every performance standard.



Dallas Harris

DDBC is co-located with one of two Marine Corps Logistics Bases. The hot, dry desert climate makes Barstow's 117 acres an ideal location for outdoor storage for large tactical vehicles and equipment. Among the items stored outside are howitzers, M1A1 Main Battle tanks, High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles, and ships' propellers, shafts and anchors.

DDBC's container manufacturing section is proficient in the design and construction of wooden, plywood cleated, fiberboard and special purpose containers for shipment or storage. This section also manufactures fiberboard inserts, which are commonly used to store small items in bins. Containers and inserts can be custom constructed to meet customer requirements and comply with Military Specifications.

DDBC is responsible for transportation management, warehousing, receipt and inventory control. Additionally, packaging and packing functions are performed in support of shipping and the Care of Stock in Storage Program. DDBC provides support to the co-located Marine Corps Maintenance Facility and other Marine Corps customers, the National Training Center and other Army customers, the Naval Sea Systems Command and other Navy and Coast Guard customers, as well as to the Air Force and other DLA customers.

Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological equipment testing and repair are also accomplished at DDBC. Gas masks and specialized military clothing is fully tested, inspected, and repaired by Depot personnel. This type of protective clothing is also maintained and stored for Army and Marine Corps customers.



DDBC employees say farewell to LTCOL Kessler.



DDBC Relinquishment.